

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A method for delivering a physiologically active compound to a patient comprising the steps of:
 - (a) ~~depositing coating onto a substrate~~ a physiologically active compound ~~that when heated in the absence of gas flow detectably decomposes onto a substrate having first and second ends;~~
 - (b) ~~placing the substrate in an airway, wherein the airway has a cross-sectional area such that for volumetric gas flows through the airway of 10—120 liter per minute, gas speed over the compound is sufficient to decrease the decomposition of the compound upon heating;~~
 - (c) ~~establishing a gas flow through the airway;~~
 - (d) (b) generating a moving heating zone that traverses from the first end to the second end of the substrate, thereby sequentially heating compound exposed to the heating zone to produce the compound to form a vapor;
 - (e) ~~allowing the vapor to mix into the gas flow, thereby cooling the vapor;~~
 - (f) (c) allowing the cooled vapor to condense to form an aerosol, wherein the aerosol has a lower fraction of decomposition than when the compound is vaporized in the absence of gas flow; and
 - (g) (d) administering the resulting aerosol to a patient.
- 2.-3. (cancelled)
4. (currently amended) The method of ~~claim 2~~ claim 1 wherein the compound is deposited onto the substrate at a the-coating thickness of is less than 10 μm .
5. (currently amended) The method of ~~claim 4~~ claim 1 wherein the aerosol has a

mass median aerodynamic diameter of between 1 - 3 μm .

6. (currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the ~~physiologically active compound detectably decomposes when heated in the absence of gas flow to a temperature that substantially vaporizes the compound over a 2 second time period~~ aerosol has a mass median aerodynamic diameter of between 10 - 100 nm.

7. (currently amended) The method of ~~claim 2~~ claim 1 wherein the heating of the compound to form a vapor occurs over a period of 2 seconds or less.

8. (currently amended) The method of ~~claim 2~~ claim 1 wherein ~~said cooled vapor mixed into air to form an aerosol is further mixed into an additional air stream to further cool said aerosol~~ the substrate is a stainless steel foil.

9. (cancelled)

10. (currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the ~~establishing a gas flow through the airway is caused by differences in pressure~~ compound is vaporized with less than 2% decomposition.

11. (cancelled)

12. (cancelled)

13. (currently amended) The method of ~~claim 12~~ claim 1 wherein ~~said gas is air~~ the vapor is free of excipients.

14.-18. (cancelled)

19. (currently amended) A method for delivering a physiologically active compound to a patient comprising the steps of:

(a) ~~depositing a heating~~ the physiologically active compound ~~to a temperature that results in substantial vaporization of the compound over a period of less than 2 seconds~~ onto a substrate defining a compound deposition area;

(b) ~~simultaneously passing a gas across the surface of said compound, said compound being contained in a heating vaporization mixing zone having a sufficiently restricted cross-sectional area to increase the rate of gas passing across said compound and to achieve a lower level of decomposition than occurs upon vaporization of a similar quantity of the compound at a similar temperature in the absence of gas passing across the compound~~ moving a heating zone with respect to the compound deposition area to progressively vaporize compound exposed to the heating zone;

(c) ~~rapidly mixing the vaporized compound into the gas to cool said compound to~~ allowing the vapor to condense to form an aerosol; and

(d) administering the resulting aerosol to a patient.

20.-28. (cancelled)

29. (currently amended) The method of claim 19 wherein ~~said compound is heated with photon energy~~ the compound is deposited onto said substrate at a thickness of less than 10 μm .

30. (currently amended) The method of claim 19 wherein ~~said compound is resistively heated with electrical energy~~ the aerosol has a mass median aerodynamic diameter of between 1 - 3 μm .

31. (currently amended) The method of claim 19 wherein ~~said compound is inductively heated with electrical energy~~ the aerosol has a mass median aerodynamic diameter of between 10 – 100 nm.

32. (currently amended) The method of claim 19 wherein ~~said compound is coated onto a substrate prior to heating~~ the heating of the compound to form a vapor occurs over a period of 2 seconds or less.

33. (currently amended) The method of ~~claim 32~~ claim 19 wherein said the substrate is a stainless steel foil.

34. (currently amended) The method of ~~claim 33~~ claim 19 wherein said compound is ~~deposited onto said stainless steel foil at a thickness of no greater than about 10 microns~~ vaporized with less than 2% decomposition.

35.-43. (cancelled)

44. (cancelled)

45. (currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein ~~the substrate is made of an electrically conductive material and is heated inductively~~ the vapor is free of excipients.

46.-83. (cancelled)

84. (new) A method for delivering a physiologically active compound to a patient comprising the steps of:

- (a) depositing a physiologically active compound onto a substrate;
- (b) moving a heating zone with respect to the substrate to progressively vaporize compound exposed to the heating zone;
- (c) allowing the vapor to condense to form an aerosol; and
- (d) administering the resulting aerosol to a patient.